

Message Text

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43

ACTION AID-59

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7452

UNCLAS DAKAR 3535

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: SAHEL DROUGHT: GRAIN SACK PURCHASES

REF: STATE 124664; NOUAKCHOTT 806

1. JUTE BAGS AVAILABLE IN QUANTITY FROM COTOA IN DAKAR. BAGS ARE DURABLE, OF 100 KILOGRAMME VARIETY, AND COST IS APPROXIMATELY 57 CENTS U.S. (EQUIVALENT) PER UNIT, DELIVERED DAKAR.

2. WILLING TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL BAGS FOR ROSSO, BUT BELIEVE THAT THE 40,000 CITED BY MIN.HEALTH BASED ON GUESS-WORK RATHER THAN HARD DATA. PRESUMABLY THIS DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT JUTE REPLACEMENT BAGS ARE TWICE THE CAPACITY OF THE POLYPROPYLENE TYPE, AND THEREFORE THE NUMBER NEEDED SHOULD BE REDUCED BY HALF.

3. 10,200 JUTE BAGS DELIVERED ROSSO BY TRUCK FROM DAKAR LAST WEEK, BEING CONSIGNED TO SOMACAT. UNFORTUNATELY, NO TWINE WAS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THAT TIME. THE NECESSARY PURCHASE HAS SINCE BEEN MADE, AND TWINE NOW AWAITS DISPATCH TO ROSSO.

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3. RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE NUMBER OF BAGS REQUIRED NOTWITH-
STANDING, FFPO MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO PURCHASE ADDITIONAL
10,000 BAGS AND REQUIRED AMOUNT OF TWINE. FYI, THE TWINE
FOR THE FIRST TRANCHE OF BAGS IS NOW READY FOR PICK-UP.
WHEN SECOND TRANCHE READY, YOU WILL BE INFORMED SO THAT
THE FIRM CAN THEN MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO SEND A TRUCK OVER
TO DAKAR. BAGS AND TWINE ARE FOR DELIVERY TO ROSSO ONLY,
NOT NOUAKCHOTT. REBAGGING OF OTHER-DONOR COMMODITIES A
GIRM/OTHER-DONOR RESPONSIBILITY.

4. ALTHOUGH A SEPARATE FUNDING AUTHORIZATION WILL BE
REQUIRED, A CONTRACT FOR PROPER STACKING ON PALLETS OF
SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THE NEARLY 14,000 M.T. NOW AT
ROSSO SHOULD BE ENGAGED IN WITH A PROFESSIONAL FREIGHT-
FORWARDING/HANDLING FIRM AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.
CONTRACT SHOULD ALSO COVER PROFESSIONAL COVERAGE OF
STACKS WITH TARPAULINS ALREADY PROVIDED. IT IS ASSUMED
THAT APPROXIMATELY 10,000 M.T. WILL BE INVOLVED, WITH THE
BALANCE TO BE STORED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS WHOSE CLASSES RECESS
26 JUNE.
CONTACTS WITH QUALIFIED FREIGHT FORWARDERS/HANDLERS
IN DAKAR INDICATE SOCPAO NOT INTERESTED IN CONSIDERING SUCH A
JOB, BUT THAT SCTT MAY BE. WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN COST ESTIMATE
FOR ROSSO OPERATION AND WILL CABLE REQUEST FOR EARLY FY 75
FUNDING.

5. URGENTLY REQUEST THAT EMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT URGE GIRM TO
PROCEED IMMEDIATELY WITH MOVING OF ROSSO GRAIN, PARTICULARLY
REPEAT PARTICULARLY CORN, TO STORAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS WHICH
ARE NOW RECESSED. ADVISE.
AGGREY

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